

Lesson 8

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Word List

Study the definitions of the words. Then do the exercises that follow.

accompany v. 1. To go along with; to be together.
Thunder often **accompanies** lightning.
2. To play a musical instrument for or with.
The pianist offered to **accompany** the singer.

beneficial *adj.* Being of use; helpful; favorable.
A balanced diet is **beneficial** to one's health.

captive *n.* One that is held prisoner.
The **captives** were closely guarded.
adj. Unable to escape or get away.
The hospital patients provided a **captive** audience for the mediocre comic.
captivity *n.* (kap tiv' i tē) The state of being held against one's will; loss of freedom.
The giant panda rarely breeds in **captivity**.

convenient *adj.* Suitable for one's needs; making life easier or more comfortable.
The bus stop is **convenient** because it's close to my house.
convenience *n.* Anything that makes life easier or more comfortable.
The new tenants appreciated the central air-conditioning and other **conveniences** of the apartment.

ecstasy *n.* A strong feeling of emotion, especially joy.
Fans screamed in **ecstasy** when their idol appeared on stage.
ecstatic *adj.* (ek stat' ik) Full of or causing ecstasy.
The winners were **ecstatic** when the judges read the names.

expanse *n.* A wide, open area or surface; a stretch.
Wheat grows on the broad **expanse** of the Kansas prairie.

expedition *n.* 1. A long journey by a group to explore or do battle.
The **expedition** into the Brazilian rain forest lasted nearly a year.
2. A group that makes such a journey.
The **expedition** was attempting to find the origin of the Nile.

inept *adj.* 1. Clumsily or awkwardly expressed; not suitable for the occasion.
That **inept** remark you made at the funeral upset those who overheard it.
2. Lacking in skill or ability.
An **inept** handler damaged the contents of the crate.

interpret *v.* 1. To translate into another language.
in tūr' prət A native Parisian was hired to **interpret** the French minister's remarks for the audience.
2. To explain the meaning of.
Joseph offered to **interpret** the dream.
3. To understand in one's own way.
I **interpreted** your absence from the meeting as disapproval of what we were trying to do.

invaluable *adj.* Too valuable to measure; priceless.
in val' yōō ə bəl The students' help in organizing the boycott was **invaluable**.

linger *v.* To be slow in leaving or going away.
lɪŋ' gər The guests **lingered** in the hall, reluctant to go out into the cold.

retrieve *v.* 1. To get back; to recover.
rē trēv' Owners can **retrieve** their lost articles from the lost and found.
2. To find and bring back.
The puppy **retrieves** sticks the children throw in the pond.

skirmish *n.* A minor fight or battle.
skər' mish Apart from a few **skirmishes**, both sides kept the cease-fire that had been agreed to.
v. To take part in such a fight.
The two sides began to **skirmish** before the major battle.

supplement *n.* Something added to make up for something missing.
sup' lə mēt Those who eat a well-balanced diet do not need vitamin **supplements**.
v. To add to.
I **supplement** my allowance with earnings from a paper route.

territory *n.* 1. A particular area of land.
ter' ə tōr ē A dog will defend its **territory**.
2. A land area under control of a particular group or government.
The island of Guam is a **territory** of the United States.